Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
Since 1982
for Delmarva History and Culture
We're History...Without You!

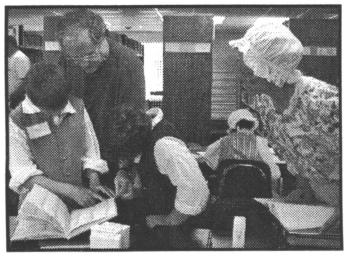
Shoreline

Vol. 16, Issue 7, July 2009

In This Issue

In the July issue of *Shoreline*, Nabb is showcasing a series of exciting events in which the Center is involved—an educational program for gifted and talented students and two outreach activities, one at the Discovery Center and the second at the Ward Museum of Art.

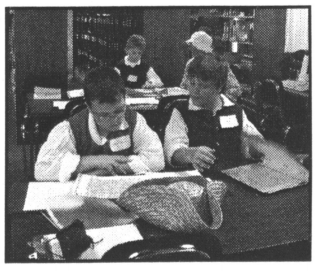
Summer Center for Gifted Students Learn Primary Research



Perhaps some of you are unaware that Nabb has, for several years, been participating in an exciting and educational summer experience with Maryland youth. Each summer elementary and middle school students spend a week at Pemberton Hall and two mornings at the Nabb Center to experience an intensive "step back in time." Students are asked to take on the "persona" of an individual from the mid-18th century and to "become that person" for a week. Not only does that student take on the lifestyle and responsibilities of the person he or she is becoming, but also engages in historical research, in which each student uses original records found at the Nabb Center to discover more about himself or herself.

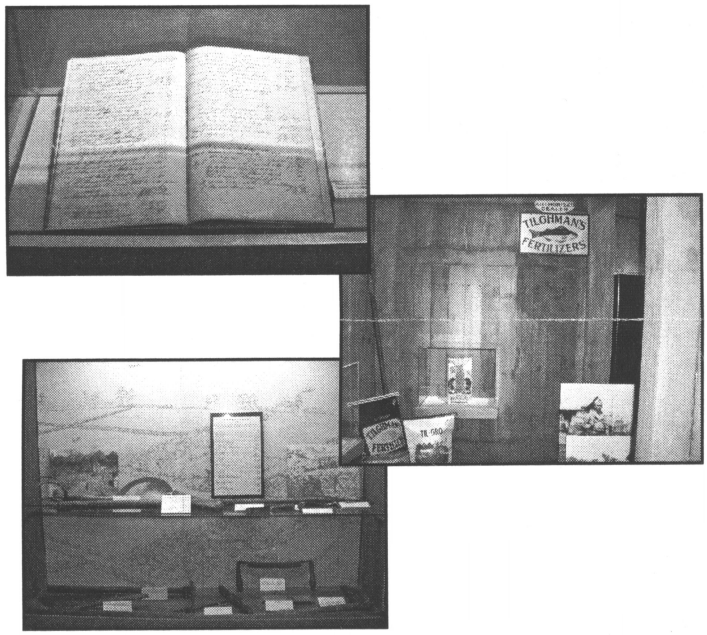
This year, the children of the Maryland Summer Center for Gifted and Talented Students (MSCGTS) visited the Nabb Research Center at the end of June to use Nabb's primary records to better understand the Handy family connected with Pemberton Hall. Using the Handy family as an example of a local wealthy family and its slaves, the students examined Handy family wills, land records, inventories and judicial records to prepare for their first-person character interpretation on the last day of the program.

The students learned not only from their visit to the Nabb Research Center but also from their hands-on activities at Pemberton Hall—such as, wearing Colonial outfits, making candles and butter, cooking, dancing and doing chores.



MSCGTS "Diary of a River" at Pemberton Hall is sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education, Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture at Salisbury University, Pemberton Hall Foundation and the Wicomico County Board of Education.

Delmarva Discovery Exhibits



A second event being showcased is a cooperative venture between the Nabb Center and the Delmarva Discovery Center in Pocomoke City, MD. On June 25, 2009, the Discovery Center launched a wonderful and educational series of exhibits aimed at chronicling the past of the area. From an idea which developed more than a decade ago by local folks, the Discovery Center has blossomed into an exciting "walk through history." Beginning with a look at the habitat of the Pocomoke, then moving on to the Native American occupation and then the European settlement of the region, a series of well-constructed exhibits trace the social, economic and environmental development along the Pocomoke River. An interactive cultural center, the Discovery Center demonstrates clearly how the perseverance of a few visionaries led to the creation of a dynamic center aimed at educating and bringing heritage tourism to Pocomoke City. Nabb curated an exhibit on "The 17th Century Tobacco Economy" and contributed to others, notably the "19th Century Wharf and Marketplace" exhibit. Throughout the Discovery Center exhibits are images from the Nabb Collections.

Information about the Discovery Center, located at 2 Market St., Pocomoke City, MD, may be found at http://delmarvadiscoverycenter.org or by calling 410-957-9933.

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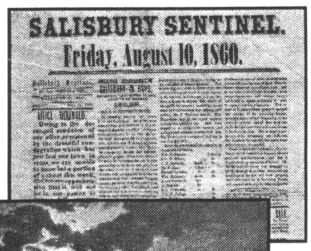
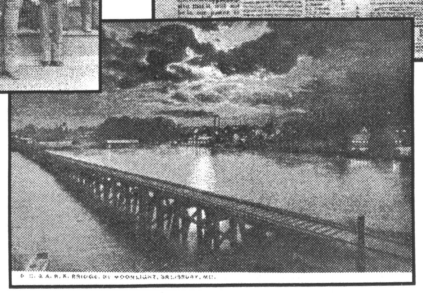
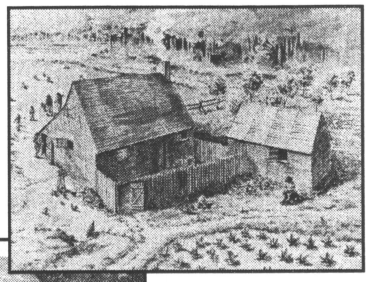
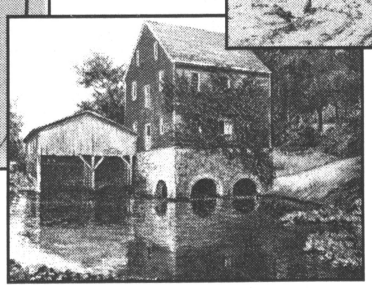
"We're History... Without You"

"A Visual Taste of Salisbury" at the Ward Museum

Nabb is collaborating with SU's Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art to curate an expansive "Visual Taste of Salisbury, 1609-1909" exhibit. The Ward Museum has invited the Nabb Center to participate in an event which has become a popular local event. The exhibit opens July 26 in conjunction with the annual Taste of Salisbury hosted by Ward. This year, guests will be treated not only to a gourmet taste of Salisbury but also to a visual taste of Salisbury. Using artifacts, maps and narrative, the exhibit shows the transformation of the Salisbury area from the Indian village of Tondotanke to the establishment of Salisbury in 1732, through two disastrous fires, to its growth and development into the early 20th century. The exhibit will illustrate the history of the Salisbury region, featuring some of our most important artifacts and historical records.

Utilizing the combined collections of the Nabb Center and the Wicomico Historical Society, the exhibit will offer a vibrant picture of the changes in the Salisbury terrain over a three-century period. The "Visual Taste of Salisbury" provides a profound educational impact by uniting historical artifacts, costumes, photographs, maps and original documents rarely seen by the public into a powerful visual and textual narrative of regional history on a scale that has not been possible previously. Among the many topics examined in the exhibition are pre-contact Indian life and religious, economic and social changes in lower Delmarva as well as agriculture and industry, and the lives of ordinary citizens.

The LaMay Gallery at the Ward Museum, located at 909 South Schumaker Drive, Salisbury, MD, will host the Nabb exhibit July 26-September 27. For hours and information about the Ward Museum, visit www.wardmuseum.org or call at 410-742-4988.